

A NEW SPECIES OF CEROPLATUS
(DIPTERA, MYCETOPHILIDÆ)¹

BY F. R. SHAW

Amherst, Massachusetts

In September 1940, Dr. C. P. Alexander collected a specimen of an undescribed species of *Ceroplatus* on the steps of Fernald Hall at Massachusetts State College. In view of the fact that the insect was taken at Fernald Hall it was felt that species should be dedicated to the Fernalds, father and son, who founded and developed the Department of Entomology at Massachusetts State College. I take pleasure in naming this insect, *Ceroplatus fernaldi*, in honor of Professors Charles Henry and Henry Torsey Fernald.

Ceroplatus fernaldi n. sp.

Length 8 mm. General color dark brown.

Head. Vertex and occiput brown. Frons and palpi yellow. Antennae brown.

Thorax. Notum and pleurae of prothorax dark brown. Mesonotum dark brown with 3 black stripes which unite in front of the scutellum. Humeri yellow. Scutellum and pleurae brown. Hypopleurae with setae.

Wing. 5½ mm. in length. Sc₁ long ending about the distance from the humeral crossvein to the base of R_s beyond the origin of R_s. Sc₂ opposite the humeral crossvein. A dark brown spot covers R₁ and extends along R_s. Fused portion of media and radius about one third longer than the petiole of media. Veins M₁ + ₂, M₃, Cu, and 2A all fail to reach the margin of the wing. Haltere yellow with a brown knob.

Legs. Prothoracic coxa brown at base, distal two thirds yellow. Trochanter yellow. Femur with a narrow brown

¹Contribution from the Department of Entomology, Massachusetts State College, Amherst, Massachusetts.

band at base, remainder is yellow. Tibia and basi tarsus yellow. Tibia about .7 as long as the basi tarsus. Remainder of tarsus appears dark because of presence of setulæ. Coxa of mesothoracic leg yellow except for brown band on the outer anterior surface and a narrow black stripe at the distal portion. Trochanter yellow. Femur with a narrow brown band at the base, the remainder yellow. Tibia and tarsi yellow but covered with black setulæ. Coxa of metathoracic leg resembles that of the mesothoracic leg except that the brown area is larger. The rest of the leg is the same in appearance as the mesothoracic appendage.

Abdomen. Dorsum of segment one entirely dark brown. Segments two through five have the dorsum dark brown except for a posterior lateral yellow spot on either side. Ventral portion of abdomen yellow. Hypopygium dark brown, resembles somewhat that of *Ceroplatus militaris* Johannsen. It can be distinguished from that of Johannsen's species by the lack of dense clusters of black setae on the inner and dorsal surfaces of the base of the disti-style.

This new species would run to *Ceroplatus militaris* in Johannsen's key. It can be distinguished from *militaris* by the structure of the hypopygium, as already discussed; by the relative lengths of the fused portion of veins M and R and the petiole of media; and by the markings.

Described from one male taken in September 1940, at Fernald Hall, Massachusetts State College, Amherst, Massachusetts by Dr. C. P. Alexander. Type in my collection.